

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 AID-20 SR-02 ORM-03 DPW-01 L-03

IO-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DODE-00 IGA-02 SSO-00 SS-15 NSC-10 RSR-01 EB-11 /132 W

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P R 171725 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7239

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USDEL JEC PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY MAILA

S E C R E T BRUSSELS 2108

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: EAID, VS, IBRD, BE

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIVE GROUP FOR SOUTH VIETNAM

REF: STATE 071100 AND 071066

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON EA DIRECTOR DE BASSOMPIERRE (RANKING
FONMINISTRY OFFICIAL ON POLITICAL SIDE

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DURING EASTER VACATION) APRIL 18 TO DISCUSS REFTELS.
BASSOMPIERRE SAID GOB IN FAVOR THIS MULTILATERAL APPROACH TO AID TO SVN AND WOULD ACCEPT IBRD INVITATION TO JOIN CONSULTATIVE GROUP IF EXTENDED. HE SAID GOB HAD RECOGNIZED FROM OUTSET THAT AID TO INDO CHINA WOULD HAVE TO BE EXTENDED IN A DIFFERENTIAL MANNER AND THAT HANOI WOULD PROBABLY INSIST UPON BILATERAL ASSISTANCE. HIS MINISTRY IS SUBMITTING TO PARLIAMENT VIA THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS A REQUEST FOR 200 MILLION BELGIAN FRANCS TO BE USED FOR INDO CHINA AID " IF AND WHEN NEEDS ARISE" IN CY 1973. THIS MOVE WAS PRECIPITATED BY MEETING OF EC AMBASSADORS (HE THOUGHT ABOUT 6) CALLED BY GVN IN SAIGON TWO OR THREE WEEKS AGO AT WHICH AID NEEDS WERE DISCUSSED, WITH EMPHASIS ON REFUGEE RELIEF AS FIRST PRIORITY.

2. BASSOMPIERRE TOOK NOTE OF EMBOFF EMPHASIS ON IMPORTANCE OF WITHHOLDING AID TO NORTH VIETNAM SO LONG AS THERE ARE CEASE FIRE VIOLATIONS AND REPEATED THAT GOB WOULD MOVE CAREFULLY. HE SAID CONCEPT OF CONSULTATIVE GROUP FOR SOUTH VIET NAM WAS IDEAL SINCE IT WOULD KEEP PROGRAM ONE STEP REMOVED FROM POSSIBLE DOMESTIC POLITICAL REACTION.

3. DE BASSOMPIERRE VOLUNTEERED THAT REPORTS FROM ALL BELGIAN EMBASSIES IN CAPITALS ALONG PRESIDENT THIEU' S RECENT ITINERARY GAVE HIM VERY HIGH MARKS FOR IMPRESSING HOST GOVERNMENTS WITH HIS STATURE, ORGANIZATION AND SERIOUSNESS OF PURPOSE. HE THOUGHT THAT THIEU HAD DONE A GREAT DEAL TO IMPROVE THE IMAGE OF HIS GOVERNMENT AMONG WESTERN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS, EVEN IN THE FRG.

STRAUSZ- HUPE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: EAID, BE, IBRD
To: BANGKOK
BONN
EA
LONDON
OTTAWA
PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC

THE HAGUE

TOKYO

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